

## HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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Michelle Ayer, Chairman  
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### **A Resolution of the Hingham School Committee on School Safety and Security**

WHEREAS we were deeply troubled by the February 14, 2018 shooting at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, that killed fourteen students and three adults, and equally troubled by previous mass school shootings, including Columbine High School in Colorado where twelve students and one adult were killed, and Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut where twenty students and six adults were killed; and

Whereas, we recognize that ensuring public safety and the safety of students and school personnel requires coordinated efforts among law enforcement, public health officials, social service agencies, families, school personnel, and community leaders;

Whereas, we believe that reasonable and practical national, state, and local policies and laws must be in place to reduce the threat of violence and reduce the use of all weapons, including firearms, in schools and other public venues; and

Whereas, a safe school environment that ensures both the physical and emotional safety of students and staff creates the conditions necessary to foster academic achievement and reduce student anxiety, and

Whereas, the impact of the School Committee Student Representative report on the collective voices and actions of students in response to the threat of violence in schools has inspired us to demand action;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hingham School Committee,

1. continues to prioritize school safety and security, educator and staff professional development, mental health supports, and connection and communication with students and families;
2. calls upon members of the United States Congress and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Legislature, to take action to address public safety, including the safety of students and school system employees, by supporting and funding enhancements to school safety infrastructure, advancing mental health supports, and enforcing and, as necessary, enhancing, legislation to reduce firearm violence in our schools and other public venues; and,
3. joins the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in opposing the arming of educators in our public schools.

Adopted this 7th day of May, 2018

Vote: 6 Aye    1 Nay    0 Abstain